

**Preliminary Amendment**

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Applicant(s): Brian A. Vaartstra

Serial No. Unknown (Parent Serial No. 10/032,049)

Filed: Herewith (Parent: December 21, 2001)

For: METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING HALOGENS AND HALIDE SALTS

**Remarks**

Please cancel claims 1-50 as requested in the Request for Filing A Divisional/Continuation Patent Application Under Rule §1.53(b), filed concurrently herewith.

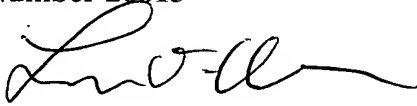
**Conclusion**

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representatives at the below-listed telephone number, if there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for  
**Brian A. Vaartstra**

By  
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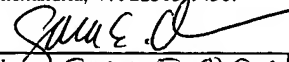
February 3, 2004  
Date

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I hereby certify that the Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) and/or fee(s), as described hereinabove, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
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